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Foreign Miscellany.

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A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MILITARY PUNISHMENTS, IN AS FAR AS REGARDS NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS & PRIVATE SOLDIERS.

BY HENRY MARSHALL, DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ARMY HOSPITALS.

It seems probable that the modern military punishment of flogging is derived through the gauntlet from the Roman *fustuarium*, the *bastinado*, *stick-beating*, which was much practised in the Roman army. Offences committed by soldiers were by the Romans much more severely punished than in civil life. A Roman freeman, even in the remote provinces, could not legally be scourged, (Acts XXIII, 25.) No such tenderness was, however, shown to soldiers; for we find in their history frequent allusion to corporal punishment, particularly infliction of scourging or flogging, which was executed with rods, or vine saplings.

When a soldier was to suffer the *bastinado*, the tribune first struck him gently with a staff, on which signal the soldiers of the legion fell upon him with sticks and saplings, and death was sometimes the consequence. In addition to flogging by running the gauntlet, the other punishments of the Romans were fines, imprisonment, degradation, banishment, depriving an offender of his accoutrements, hard labor, the stocks, and coarse bread. Their more severe punishments consisted in cutting out a criminal's tongue, amputating his hands, excising a knee bone, slavery, stoning, and beheading. It is alleged, however, that young soldiers, *tyrones*, were exempted from the severity of military punishments, partly because of their presumed want of knowledge and experience, and partly on account of their youth and want of mature judgment. It may be remarked that, according to Sir James Turner, a provost-martial, in his time, executed the functions of a Roman tribune when a soldier was to be scourged. "The provost-martial," says Sir James, "is to be present at the execution of every sentence, and when a soldier is to run the gauntlet he is to give him the first lash."

Bruce, who published his work (*The Institutions of Military Law*) in 1717, has a long chapter on military crimes, with the punishments awarded thereto. The punishments he enumerates are *death*, which might be awarded to a great number of delinquencies, the secondary punishments being *stigmatizing* (branding) *in the forehead*, *cutting off the ears*, *forfeiture of three months' pay*, *degradation to the quality of a*

pioneer scavenger, and *riding the wooden horse*. Flogging is not mentioned. At this time the criminal law was cruel and inexorable. The law which punished with death the offence of privately stealing in a shop property to the value of five shillings was enacted in the year 1699. Two years after it had passed (in 1701) an anonymous writer published a tract to propose that hanging was not a sufficiently severe punishment for murder, burglary, or highway-robbery. "If death," says he, "be due to a man who surreptitiously steals the value of five shillings, surely he who puts me in fear of my life, and breaks the King's peace, and it may be murders me at last, and burns my house, deserves another sort of censure, and, if the one must die, the other should be made to feel himself die." And the author accordingly proposes breaking upon the wheel and whipping to death, as punishments proper to be adopted.

The injurious effects of corporal and disgraceful punishments are, however, recognized by 5 Anne, c. 6, repealing the 11 and 12 William III, which directs that persons convicted of theft "*shall be burned in the most visible part of the left cheek*." "And whereas," says the act, "it hath been found by experience that the said punishment hath not had the desired effect by deterring such offenders from the commission of such crimes and offences, *but, on the contrary, such offenders being thereby rendered unfit to be intrusted in any honest and lawful way, become the more desperate*, be it therefore enacted that the aforesaid clause shall be, and is hereby, repealed."

The principal object of punishment being the reformation of an offender, much care should be taken in regard to the kind and degree of the punishments inflicted. A man who is branded having completely lost his character, and all hope of ever regaining it, is apt to become more disposed to injure, to circumvent, and to betray than ever. Wherever his road lies he bears with him the mark or the remembrance of his infamy. His hand is against every man, and every man's hand against him.

We learn from Bruce that in his time, (1717,) "by the *sea-laws* of most of the maritime powers, it was ordered that whoever draws a sword, dagger, knife, &c., upon his fellow, is either to have a knife *struck through his hand, and drawn out betwixt the fingers*, or is to be *keel-hailed*, although he have been prevented, and has given no wound; but beating or wounding with any other weapon is now commonly punished with the loss of the right hand."

As a specimen of the severity of the laws and usages of war about the middle of the last century, I have subjoined the following brief extracts from orders issued during the campaigns in Flanders:

"All men who are found gathering peas or beans,

or under the pretence of rooting, to be *hanged*, as marauders, without trial." (Orders by the Duke of Cumberland, 1748.)

"Any sutlers that refuse to change the men's money, or demand a reward, or oblige them to drink in order to get their money changed, shall be *plundered* and turned out of camp." (Orders by the Duke of Cumberland, 1747.)

"The first officer who sends his baggage before the march of the army, or out of its proper place, shall have it *plundered*, and the said officer shall be brought before a court-martial, and tried for disobedience of orders."

Among the punishments to which sutlers and camp followers were liable, I may mention the *whirligig*. "This was a circular wooden cage, which," according to Grose, "turned on a pivot, and when set in motion wheeled round with such amazing velocity that the delinquent became extremely sick, and commonly emptied his or her body through every aperture."

A military essay was published in 1761, by Lieutenant Colonel Dalrymple, from which we learn that by that period whipping was employed as a military punishment. As a means of preventing crime in the army, Colonel Dalrymple recommended that the regiments should be raised and recruited in particular counties. "It is very difficult," says our author, "from the kind of men that we get, to avoid frequent and severe punishments, especially in time of war, when, from the scarcity of men, we are not to *whip* out of a regiment perhaps a good but vicious soldier; yet *we do more than perhaps is absolutely necessary*. There is a kind of spirit of honor in the most profligate of the soldiery, which being strengthened greatly by the regiments becoming provincial, will give leave to think that they might be worked upon in that way and by confinement; for frequency of *flogging*, and for *every crime*, renders it less exemplary, and lessens the shame attending it. Now, to vary the punishment might, therefore, be a means to deter old offenders, and by making a man to run the gauntlet, and to be severely punished by his companions, might have some effect upon him; at least it would affect the humanity of the men, who thereby disliking to punish, would afterwards avoid deserving the like penalties." Colonel Dalrymple is the first author that I have met with who mentions the word "*flogging*," and who, be it observed, bears testimony to the inefficacy of this mode of punishment.

Whipping or flogging was, according to Samuel, (account of the British army, 1816,) a refinement on the former modes of chastisement, increasing the rigor of punishment by prolonging the duration of it, if not the intensity of pain, probably in consequence of the change which had taken place in the condition of persons of whom our armies were subsequently composed. The military ranks in remoter periods were filled by men of some substance, and generally of landed property, who had ability to make atonement for slight offences by pecuniary mulcts—a composition conformable to ancient usage. The interest of certain officers in the fines of soldiers must have favored and co-operated with the policy which thus

directed itself to the purse, rather than the person of an offender. When the pursuit of the camp was afterwards preferred as a profession, a pecuniary expiation of crimes could not be countenanced in the military code; and hence, from altered circumstances, flogging was substituted in its stead—"a species of punishment," says Samuel, "which, if not exceptionable in itself, is, from the frequency of its use, and the strange extent of its application, not less discreditable, as it is supposed by many well-directed minds, to the spirit of the military law than the general character of our armies."

On the 7th February, 1749-50, the following question was submitted to the House of Commons: "Whether a clause ought not to have been added to the mutiny bill for preventing any non-commissioned officer being broke or reduced into the ranks, or any officer or soldier being punished but by the sentence of a court-martial." The Earl of Egmont, who spoke in favor of the introduction of the clause, maintained that "we ought to be careful not to give the meanest soldier of our army an occasion to think that he is in a state of slavery. On the contrary, we should, as far as is consistent with the nature of military service, furnish them with reasons for rejoicing in their being English soldiers, and, consequently, in a condition much superior to that of the slavish armies on the continent. And as this—inflicting of punishments by the sole and arbitrary will of a commander is a power that has been very seldom exercised in time of war, it cannot, I think, be necessary in time of peace." Another member, who advocated the same side of the question, said: "Gentlemen may talk of the happy condition of the soldiers of our army, and of its being preferable to that of the soldiers of any other army; but no man that reflects can think himself happy whilst he is liable to be punished at the mere whim of any man whatsoever. And although I shall allow that a little *manual correction* may now and then be necessary, yet it is what a good officer will always be very sparing of." The object of the clause in question, "is to prevent any military commander's taking upon him to subject a soldier to such as have always been deemed military punishments by his own sole authority." The clause was withdrawn, and the bill passed. British soldiers had, I believe, for many ages been liable to the manual correction of officers; and the result of this motion may be considered tantamount to an approval by the House of Commons of that mode of inflicting punishment. It was not until after the commencement of the present century that effectual measures were taken to prevent soldiers being beaten by officers; but I believe manual correction, or rather correction with the cane, did not fall into disuse in the East India Company's army for a number of years after it had been practically abolished in the British army.

It may be inferred from a work which was published in 1761, entitled, "*Cautions and Advices to Officers of the Army, by an Old Officer*," that soldiers were at that time very liable to receive "*manual correction*" from officers, without any previous legal investigation. "*Never beat your soldiers*," says the old officer, "it is unmanly. Are they guilty of a

crime? make them prisoners; let them be punished legally by the sentence of a court-martial, and my life for it they will never repine. But to see, as I have often done, a brave, honest old soldier battered and banged at the caprice and whim of an arrogant officer, is really shocking to humanity; and I never saw such scenes, but it brought to my recollection the saying of a general to a young officer, perhaps the day after his joining the regiment, thrashing an old soldier, very probably from no other cause but to show his authority, or to look big in the sight of those who came to see him mount his first guard, who called out to him, *that is well done, sir; beat the dog, thrash him, for you know he dare not strike again.* This very consideration ought to be a sufficient restraint from the practice."

"Every man," says the old officer, "is capable of knowing and resenting ill usage, the low as well as the high. Change sides for instances. Suppose it had been your fate to have been born in so low a situation, or that by some cause or reverse of fortune you were reduced to the necessity of carrying arms for a maintenance, think how you would resent this treatment—how your soul would be torn with grief, rage, and shame, to be treated like a brute, who must be corrected into obedience. Though soldiers do in some measure part with their liberty when they enlist, yet the law is still as ready to screen them from violence, oppression, and tyranny as it was before they entered the service; and surely it is a manifest infringement of the laws arbitrarily to punish at your own discretion, without the opinion of a jury, or sentence passed upon the culprit. I have been fuller upon this head than I at first intended, yet I cannot dismiss it without another caution, which is, that if you have unguardedly been guilty of beating a soldier, do not confine him afterwards; this is punishing him twice for the same crime, which no law upon earth, that I know, can justify. I remember once an officer came to his major, who then commanded the regiment, and stated that a soldier had insulted him grievously, for which he had confined him, and desired a court martial on him. The major added to the orders he was then giving to the adjutant, one for a court martial to try the offender on the morrow; when the officer said he had beat him so long as he had strength, or that stick (showing the remains of an enormous one in his hand) would hang together. To this the major replied, 'had you, sir, only confined the man for insulting you, as you told me, you should have seen strict justice done on the delinquent; but as you have thought proper to take your own satisfaction, you must be content with that, for no other shall you have from me. I cannot in conscience punish twice for the same crime;' and immediately cancelled the order for a court martial, and ordered the adjutant to set the man at liberty."

The officer, it does not appear, incurred any penalty by beating the soldier, and hence we may presume that the manual correction of soldiers was completely sanctioned by custom, if not by law; in other words, officers executed their own sentences.

"Some punishments," says the old officer, "are inflicted by officers without the sentence of a court

martial, for which custom only can be pleaded, for I know of no other authority they have for it"—namely, *tying neck and heels, riding the wooden horse, and picketing.*

Tying neck and heels, is thus performed: "The criminal sits down on the ground, when a fire-lock is put under his hams, and another over his neck, which are forcibly brought almost together by means of a couple of cartouch-box straps. In this situation, with his chin between his knees, has many a man been kept till the blood gushed out of his nose, mouth, and ears, and ruptures have also too often been the fatal consequences, and a worthy subject lost to the service or rendered incapable of maintaining himself when the exigencies of the State no longer require his duty. Can any one who has brought a man into such circumstances ever forgive himself? I think not."

This punishment must have had a similar effect to the *scavenger's daughter*, an instrument of torture formerly employed in the tower. This instrument is thus described by Dr. Lingard, (history of England, vol. viii, p. 521.) "The scavenger's daughter," says he, "was a broad hoop of iron, consisting of two parts, fastened to each other by a hinge. The prisoner was made to kneel on the pavement, and to contract himself into as small a compass as he could. Then the executioner, kneeling on his shoulders, and having introduced the hoop under his legs, compressed the victim close together, till he was able to fasten the extremities over the small of his back. The time allotted for this kind of torture was an hour and a half, during which it commonly happened that, from excess of compression, the blood started from the nostrils, and sometimes it was believed from the extremities of the hands and feet." This compressing instrument is sometimes called *Skevington's gyves*, (fettors or irons,) but more commonly called *Skevington's daughter*, which was invented by Sir William Skevington, Lieutenant of the Tower, in the reign of Henry VIII. It acted by compressing the limbs and body, instead of distending them, as the rack. Shakespeare perhaps alludes to Skevington's daughter, when he makes Prospero say, in the *Tempest*:

He is a traitor!

I'll manacle thy neck and feet together.

Torture was occasionally used in England so late as the commonwealth; and in Scotland it was employed to extort confession, down to the reign of William III, and not definitively abolished until the 7th of Anne. In Ireland the use of it was renewed by the Military Judges of 1798.

Riding the wooden horse and picketing, will be described in a subsequent page of this sketch.

"These punishments, barbarous as they are," says the old officer, "are only inflicted for petty crimes, as they are called, such as coming to the field exercise five minutes later than his comrades, or overstaying as many minutes the leave given him by his officer, when on guard, &c. Will anybody say these trifling crimes deserve such severe, such dangerous punishment? I am aware that it may be asked, are petty crimes and little neglects of duty to escape with impunity? I answer, no. How then are they to be

punished? By making the culprit do a double duty, that is, mount two guards instead of one, making him stand sentinel four hours instead of two. These and several other methods that might be adopted, are, in my opinion, punishments sufficiently adequate to such trifles. Crimes of a deeper dye have their punishment allotted to them in the Mutiny Act and Articles of War, from which a court martial cannot deviate, without very justifiable reasons. Punishments are necessary while men will be guilty of the committing of crimes; but all I contend for" says the old officer," is, that they ought not to be arbitrary, or inflicted at the whim or caprice of any man whatever, merely perhaps to show his authority, or to glut the cruelty of his disposition."

We have too much adopted the Gothic system of correction—namely, by rigorous severity, which often hardens the heart, instead of pursuing a more rational plan of softening the mind in order to promote its amendment. The idea of the necessity of severe and revengeful punishments has made such a deep impression on mankind, and in a special degree upon military officers, that it is very difficult of obliteration. We are unwilling to believe that punishments which we have seen frequently inflicted, and which have received the sanction of ages, however shocking they may be to our feelings, are not necessary and efficacious. Strange to say, the alleged opinions of even private soldiers in favor of the severe and degrading punishment of flogging are adduced in support of that mode of penal infliction. How strong must the conservative influence of habit be, when it can produce such effect!

Running the gauntlet was used as a punishment at this period, (1760,) which is fully described by the "old officer," who informs us that there was a clause in the former Articles of War, where, in ordering it as a punishment, it was with this caution: "which is a punishment, we think, not fitting to be otherwise inflicted than by the judgment of a general or regimental court martial." "Would to God," says he, "and I speak it with all imaginable deference and submission, the other punishment I have just been describing were as effectually guarded against; and I am convinced it would greatly add to the advantage of the service."

"In giving your opinion," says the old officer, "in a regimental court martial, endeavor to make a distinction in your punishments; make them, as near as you can, adequate to the crime. I knew a set of officers sufficient for a court martial, no more being with the regiment, who constantly allotted one number of lashes to all offenders."

When flogging was frequent in the army, officers were very liable to follow a routine uniformity in their sentences, and to pay too little attention to the discrimination of particular cases, the character of individuals, or the best mode of preventing the commission of offences. The tendency of officers to follow in an old track became, from custom, to be considered by all ranks as the ordinary result of a court martial. "Give yourself no trouble," (said a soldier, who had been convicted of intemperance, to the members of a court martial, who were delibe-

rating upon the amount of his punishment,) "in regard to the number of lashes; just put down the usual two hundred." This was one of those numerous cases which occur in the army, where flogging does no good. Physical pain never cured a habit of intemperance; and when a good natured, obliging offender is flogged, he is pitied and commiserated by his comrades, who think much of the punishment, and little of the delinquency. Punishment fails to deter from the commission of offences when it is inflicted in opposition to popular opinion.

"Some soldiers," continues the old officer, "when they have once shown their backs, become hardened to shame, and all the whipping in the world afterwards is insufficient to reclaim them; sometimes, however, a lucky start out of the common road has had surprising effects. I have heard of a soldier who used about once a week to be brought to the whipping-post. To this he was so hardened, that he once made this address to the court martial: 'Gentlemen, I am sorry to give you this frequent trouble on my account; but if you will please to order me one hundred and fifty lashes every Monday morning, I will regularly come and receive them. This will be better for us all: it will save you the trouble of meeting so often, and me the confinement between the whippings.' This man was again sentenced to be whipped, and the commanding officer was determined to try an experiment with him, which, if it failed, he resolved to discharge so troublesome, indeed so worthless, a fellow, out of the regiment. Accordingly, when the culprit had, with great resignation and calmness, suffered his hands to be tied up, as is the custom, the commanding officer ordered his breeches to be let down, and the lashes to be applied to his bare posteriors. This he thought himself authorized to do, as the court-martial had indeed allotted a certain number of lashes, but had not specified where they were to be applied. The fellow hearing these orders, begged that he might be punished as a man, and not as a boy; that he might suffer any other way; in short, that he might be shot, rather than undergo this ignominious punishment. His entreaties were, however, unavailing, and he received the lashes as directed. The effect answered beyond expectation; it brought a total reformation on him; he became one of the best men in the regiment, and in a short time he was made a serjeant, as a reward for his good behavior. I have heard, also, of another man, upon whom punishment had no effect. The commanding officer observing that, notwithstanding all his vices, he had some very valuable qualifications, resolved to try another mode than whipping. It was not long before he had an opportunity of putting his scheme into execution; for the next fault, instead of being punished, to the fellow's great surprise he appointed him serjeant! This opened his eyes; he applied himself diligently to his duty, and became as remarkably sober and good as he had been the contrary before. These instances, amongst many others I could give, show that severity is not always necessary to work reformation; lenity, or a happy thought, will oftener prove more effectual; at least,

it is well worth the trial: it is time enough to recur to the other if this fail."

Horne Tooke says: "The worst use you can turn a man to is to hang him;" and I have no hesitation in alleging that the worst use you can turn a soldier to is to make a "flogging-block" of him for the example of others.

A soldier who thinks he has been aggrieved in the army may, even after his being discharged, appeal to the civil jurisdiction of the country, and by that means obtain a legal investigation of the alleged grievance.

In July, 1763, at the assizes of Winchester, before a special jury, a cause was tried, wherein George Dawson, lately a soldier in the 85th regiment, was plaintiff, and three lieutenants and three drummers were defendants. The action was brought for trespass and assault, and false imprisonment of the soldier. In the course of the evidence, it appeared that one of the defendants (Lieut. W.) had caned and imprisoned the plaintiff without just cause, and that the plaintiff received three hundred lashes with a cat-of-nine-tails, at the halberts, under color of the sentence of a court-martial, of the proceedings of which no evidence was given by the defendants; and, after a long hearing, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with £300 damages; against one lieutenant £200, and £50 each against the other two.

"**VIRAGO**" STEAM FRIGATE.—The *Virago* is one of the second class frigates belonging to our service. Her dimensions are as follow: length between perpendiculars, 180 ft.; keel, 156 ft.; extreme breadth, 36 ft.; breadth for tonnage, 35 ft. 8½ in.; moulded breadth, 35 ft.; depth in hold, 21 ft.; tonnage, 994, m. n. She is fitted with two engines, of the collective power of 300 horses, manufactured by Messrs. Boulton, Watt, and Co., which are eminently novel in their arrangement, occupying less space than any yet employed in her Majesty's navy or otherwise; combining great strength with the lightness of construction, facility of access to all the working parts, with a ready and simple mode of handling them, being stopped and started with as much ease as if they were intended for river use. Each cylinder is supported upon a foundation plate connected with the condensers, situated in the middle line, forming one casting, and containing the two air pumps, which are worked by an auxiliary beam from a crank on the engine shaft; this arrangement having been first adopted by them as far back as June, 1841, and which arrangement they have patented with other improvements in the oscillating engine. The steam can be expanded at various parts of the stroke, and the valves for that purpose are simple, and work without the usual noise attending those generally employed. There are four boilers, situated close to each other, but having a clear passage round the sides of 18 inches in width. They have stop-valves to each, so that they may be worked separate or together, as occasion may require. There are 16 fire-places, and two firing-floors—one forward, towards the engines, the other abaft—to which access is afforded by the above-mentioned passage of 18 inches. The chimney is surrounded by a

water-case, from which the boilers are fed with water at nearly a boiling temperature, by which a saving of fuel is effected, and the risk of fire diminished. This plan was originally adopted by this firm shortly after the destruction of the *Prince Regent* by fire in 1817.

The entire of the boilers and steam-chest is covered with felt, two inches in thickness, sewed on to canvas, protected by inch deal with iron tongues, and finally coated with sheet lead, to prevent any leak from the deck saturating either the wood or the felt. On each side of the engine and boilers are arranged the coal-boxes, extending from bulkhead to bulkhead, and calculated to hold 23 days' consumption; the machinery is there protected from shot by the thickness of the stratum of coal, while the greater part of the engine is considerably below the load line.

The following are some of the principal dimensions of the engines: diameter of cylinders, 64½ in.; length of stroke, 5 ft.; connecting rod, 8 ft.; diameter of paddle wheel, 25 ft.; boards, 8 ft. long, in two widths, each 12 in. The entire weight of these engines, boilers, and coal-boxes, are 15 tons under that given to the Admiralty in the tender, being little more than 13½ cwt. per horse.

On the 11th instant an experimental trip, for a short distance down the river, was made in the presence of the Government engineers, with which we understand they were perfectly satisfied. They will shortly proceed to Chatham, to be fitted with her rigging, &c., when it is presumed she will be forthwith commissioned.

THE "**PENELOPE**" STEAM FRIGATE.—This large man-of-war frigate, which has been lengthened for the purpose of converting it into a first class steam-frigate, has been towed up the river Thames from Chatham to Messrs Seaward's wharf, at Limehouse, to receive her engines. The engines are constructed on the Gorgon direct action principle, and occupy, comparatively speaking, a very small space for engines of their magnitude. The cylinders are 92 inches diameter, and 7 feet stroke, at 17 strokes per minute, the collective nominal power of the two engines is 680 horses, but she can be worked up to 750 or 800 h. p. without incurring the slightest risk. She is fitted with Hall's patent condensers, and an ingenious contrivance for altering the throw of the eccentric rod which works the steam valves; by this contrivance the steam can be expanded to any degree, without the aid of an expansion valve; the air-pumps are of solid brass; there is also an ingenious contrivance for disconnecting the paddle-wheel shafts different to any before adopted. There are four boilers, which are tubular and only 9 feet long; the fire-grate is under the boiler; the fire rises from the grate up the back and returns through the tube to the front, it then returns again over the top to the up-take in the centre of the four boilers, which are placed in pairs, back to back. The chimney funnel is made like a telescope, the upper half slides down. When the vessel is completed, we hope that we shall be able to give a more minute description of the several improvements that we have now but slightly alluded to.

Domestic Miscellany.**INTERESTING REVOLUTIONARY REMINISCENCES.**

At the Whig Convention held at Worcester on Wednesday last, was present, as a delegate from Beverly, the Rev. ELISHA SCOTT WILLIAMS, of the latter town, now eighty-five years old. He was a soldier of the revolutionary army, and was present at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. Having been announced to the assemblage, by the president of the day, who called upon him to say a few words, the veteran rose amidst the loudest applause, and addressed the meeting for a few moments with great effect.

Premising that his speech must necessarily be very brief, on account of his feeble health, he answered an allusion to the scars which were plainly visible upon his left temple and cheek, by saying that they were caused *only* by a shell which fell and burst in a fort on York island, where he was then stationed. He avowed his unacquaintance with assemblies of this kind, since this was the first time he had ever been present at such a convocation, and hardly knew how to address his fellow-citizens acceptably; but since he had been called upon he would give a slight detail of some occurrences which took place during the war of the Revolution and at which he was present.

The reverend old gentleman then mentioned that in consequence of the breaking out of the war in 1775, he was obliged that year to close his collegiate career, at Harvard University, and return home to his parents. In the family circle and among his friends the usual current of conversation ran upon the difficulties between the colonies and the mother country, and the sentiments he heard expressed on the subject, by his parents and those most entitled to his love and respect, filled his mind with indignation at the atrocious wrongs heaped by England upon her colonies, and, as a natural consequence, with a firm resolution to assist the latter, to the utmost of his power, in their resistance to aggression and tyranny. Each event of the day strengthened this determination, and in conformity to his own ardent wishes, but a short time elapsed before he joined the revolutionary army, and was made adjutant of the regiment commanded by Colonel Ward. This regiment was then stationed at New York, but was soon after ordered to move up the North river, to build a fort some distance above New York. This having been accomplished, nothing further of particular interest to himself took place till his regiment joined the continental army in the celebrated retreat through the Jerseys—a period of great depression amongst most of the people, whose despondency the capture of General Lee tended much to increase, and which was only removed by the brilliancy of the exploits at Trenton and Princeton. At these battles he was present. Washington having crossed the Delaware, learned that a considerable force of the British and Hessians was posted at Trenton and determined to make an attack upon the town; accordingly the army recrossed the river in three or four detachments, but not without great difficulty, on account of the bro-

ken state of the ice. However, so well was the expedition conducted, that two divisions of the American forces reached Trenton about sunrise, nearly at the same moment, and both arrived within hearing of the voices of the enemy's sentinels before being discovered. The cry from the British then was, "rise, rise, the rebels are out of the bush!" But the attack was immediately made, and ere the expiration of two hours, one thousand of the enemy were taken prisoners, and the town fell into the possession of the Americans.

General Washington kept the troops four days at Trenton, when being informed that a greatly superior body of the enemy was advancing to attack him and that part of the latter were left at Princeton, he determined to make a forced march upon that town. Accordingly he took a circuitous route, and fell upon the enemy at Princeton before those he had left behind near Trenton knew of his departure. Indeed the firing at Princeton was the first notice the British had that their expected prey had escaped them. The battle at Princeton was hotly contested for some time, and General Mercer being killed, the loss of this esteemed and beloved officer had so dispiriting an effect upon the Americans, that a portion of them began to retreat. At this juncture it was that the immortal Father of his Country drew his sword and cried appealingly to the retreating troops—"my God!—my countrymen, *will you leave me?* Courage! Courage and the day is won!" And the soldiers rallied at once and the enemy was conquered. Never, said Mr. Williams, was the power of Washington over his troops displayed to greater advantage than at this moment, when, weakened by long continued exertions, and depressed by the loss of a dear officer, nothing but *that* voice could have prevented a defeat.

Soon after this the army went into winter quarters at Morristown, and he did not think that any further relation of his connection with the war would be interesting enough to occupy the time of the convention with its details.

In conclusion, the venerable speaker earnestly invoked the God of armies and of Heaven, to bless our beloved commonwealth by leading the people, to choose for their rulers men who partake of the revolutionary spirit, who fear God, know their duty, and conscientiously perform it, and exert themselves to the utmost to promote the good of their fellow creatures.

Mr. WILLIAMS resumed his seat amidst the eager cheering, which continued for some time.—*Boston Courier.*

RIVER DES MOINES.—The St. Louis Gazette states that the Des Moines river, a tributary of the Mississippi, has recently been ascended to Racoon Fort, three hundred miles from its mouth, by Captain Lafferty, in the steamboat Agatha. Captain Lafferty describes the country through which the river passes as the most beautiful farming country he has ever seen. The head of navigation on this river is much nearer the Missouri than had been supposed. It is said to be but one hundred miles from Racoon Fort to the Council Bluffs on the Missouri.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The following memorial has received many signatures at Boston, submitting to the President of the United States the expediency and propriety of a decided remonstrance, on the part of the United States Government, against a measure so injurious to the commercial and mercantile interests of American citizens, as the permanent occupancy of the Sandwich Island group by Great Britain:

"The undersigned, merchants and others, citizens of the United States, some of whom are extensively engaged in commerce with the Hawaiian Islands, and all deeply interested in the political, civil, and religious prosperity of that nation, have heard with sentiments of sorrow and indignation the news of the late proceedings on the part of Lord George Paulet, commanding H. B. M. ship Carysfort, terminating in the provisional cession of that group to Great Britain.

"Firmly believing that the establishment of the national independence of the Hawaiian Islands upon a firm basis is essential to the due preservation of the commercial rights of all nations in the North Pacific, and that the Hawaiian Government, if left to itself, and treated by other nations with justice and courtesy, is fully competent to discharge all its relations, not only for the maintenance of its own internal peace, and the security of person and property to all who visit their shores, but to conform to all the settled principles of international law; and believing also that the permanent occupancy of them by any foreign power would prove exceedingly injurious to the commercial and mercantile interests of American citizens, most particularly to those engaged in the whale fishery, we do respectfully present to your consideration these views, and submit whether, under existing circumstances, it is not expedient and proper for the interests of American trade in that quarter of the globe, that the American Government should make a decided remonstrance against a measure so destructive of its best interests.

"The sentiments expressed in your message to Congress of December 31, 1842, in regard to the relations of this Government with the Hawaiian Government, and its relative position to other powers, meet our full and cordial approbation, and we request that they may be made the basis of a communication (if in your opinion consistent with the interests of the American Government) from this Government to the Government of Great Britain.

"We remain, sir, with sentiments of respect, your fellow citizens.

"To the PRESIDENT of the United States."

A SCENE, MOURNFUL BUT SUBLIME.—One of the missionaries at the Sandwich Islands, giving an account of the recent seizure of the islands by the British, states the following particulars of the last act in this affair, so disgraceful to the men by whom the surrender was basely compelled.

After the King had finally given his reluctant consent to the cession, nothing remained to be done but the signing of the papers.

"When this last act was to be performed, an affecting scene occurred. The chiefs sat silent for a season in sadness, struggling to suppress the emotions of their heaving breasts. One proposed prayer. They all knelt down and prayed, and after the prayer was closed, they all remained kneeling for several minutes. After they arose, the King and Premier stepped forward, and with aching hearts ceded away their islands by subscribing the requisite proclamation."

If this act of the British officer is approved by Government, we trust that the historian, in recording the victory of England over King Kamehameha, will not forget to write down the incident we have here related. A few years ago this island King and his subjects were heathen. Under the influence of Christianity they have been raised to the enjoyments of liberty and civilization, and in the very infancy of their new existence they are summoned to surrender their all to foreign masters at the mouth of the British cannon!—*New York Observer*.

The following edicts issued by the British Commissioners who have usurped the Government of the island, are copied from the Boston Mercantile Journal.

OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS,
Honolulu, Feb. 28, 1843.

Public notice is hereby given that an additional duty of ONE PER CENT. ad valorem will be payable on all goods landed from vessels arriving at these islands after this date, with the exception of goods sworn to be landed for re exportation.

By order of the commissioners:

ALEX. SIMPSON,
H. SEA,
Joint Secretaries.

OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION, &c.,
March 3, 1843.

Public notice is hereby given that Mr. Jules Dudoit, Consul of France to the late Government, having intimated to the commission that he declines to lay before it his authority for acting as representative of France in these islands, the commission will not recognize him from this date in that capacity.

By order of the commissioners:

ALEX. SIMPSON,
H. SEA,
Joint Secretaries.

OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION, &c.,
March 1, 1843.

Public notice is hereby given that all British subjects, and the subjects or citizens of other countries (other than the natives of the Archipelago) having any claim for land in the Sandwich Islands, whether by lease, written document, or in virtue of occupancy, are required to send in such claims to the commissioners on or before the first of June next, failing which, no claims will be hereafter held valid, (unless the holders of these claims shall be absent from these islands during the intervening space.) The commissioners will not enter upon the validity of these claims

at present, but will cause all the deeds and claims as presented to be registered for future decision.

By order of the commissioners:

ALEX. SIMPSON,
H. SEA,

Joint Secretaries.

OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION, &c., }
March 4, 1843.

Public notice is hereby given, that the commissioners intending to grant licences to a limited number of houses in this town and neighborhood for the sale of spirituous liquors, from and after the 1st of April, for each of which licenses one hundred and fifty dollars will be charged, are ready to receive written applications at their office, on or before the 15th instant, from those who are desirous of being so licensed.

By order of the commissioners:

ALEX. SIMPSON,
H. SEA,

Joint Secretaries.

The following, however, seems to cap the climax. The poor King is indeed deprived of his power by these insolent foreigners, and his opinions are to be disregarded, unless he speaks with "the sanction of Lord Paulet," or by the authority of the British commission!

OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION, &c., }
March 3, 1843.

It is hereby publicly intimated that the publication and distribution of a speech stated to have been made by Kamehameha on the 25th of February, in a paper entitled "Official correspondence relating to the late provisional cession of the Sandwich Islands," was entirely without the authority of the Right Honorable Lord George Paulet, or the commission appointed by him; that speech was delivered without the sanction of Lord George Paulet, and formed no part of, and had no connection with, the arrangements by which the sovereignty of these islands was provisionally ceded to Great Britain.

By order of the commissioners:

ALEX. SIMPSON,
H. SEA,

Joint Secretaries.

THE "WISE" PROJECT.

LANCASTER, (PA.), June 8, 1843.

TO ALL PUBLISHERS OF NEWSPAPERS ON THE GLOBE: As it is my intention to make a trip across the Atlantic Ocean in a balloon, in the summer of 1844, and as the descent or landing of ballons, in my experience, has almost invariably created unnecessary alarm to the inhabitants, I therefore give this general notice to the sea-faring community of all climes, that should they, during any time henceforth, chance to be in the vicinity of a balloon, either on the ocean or in the atmosphere, they will not be under any fearful apprehensions, but endeavor to give aid to the adventurers. It must not be inferred from this that the success is considered improbable, but merely to be prepared for all emergencies.

Having, from a long experience in ærostatics,

been convinced that a regular current of air is blowing at all times from west to east, with a velocity of from twenty to forty miles per hour, according to its height from the earth; and having discovered a composition which will render silk or muslin impervious to hydrogen gas, so that a balloon may be kept afloat for many weeks, I feel confident, with these advantages, that a trip across the Atlantic will not be attended with as much real danger as by the common mode of transition.

The balloon is to be one hundred feet in diameter, which will give a nett ascending power twenty-five thousand pounds—being amply sufficient to make every thing safe and comfortable. A seaworthy boat is to be used for the car, which is to be depended on in case the balloon should happen to fail in accomplishing the voyage. The boat would also be calculated upon in case the regular current of wind should be diverted from the course by the influence of the ocean, or through other causes. The crew to consist of three persons, viz: an aeronaut, a navigator, and a scientific landsman.

Therefore, the people of Europe, Africa, Asia, and all other parts, on the ocean or elsewhere, who have never seen a balloon, will bear in mind that it is a large globe, made of cloth, ensconced in a net-work, with a sloop hanging underneath it, containing the "latest news from the United States," with the crew of the world's obedient servant,

JOHN WISE.

THE LOCUSTS.

BALTIMORE, (MD.), June 14, 1843.

TO POSTMASTERS AND EDITORS.—This singular insect is at this time amusing the people in various portions of the United States. But, as it appears in one year in one section, and in another year in another, it is a matter of great interest in natural history to ascertain the boundaries and extent of territory occupied by each family or district. I announced, a few days since, that I had ascertained the existence of sixteen different districts—since then I have discovered two more, making *eighteen districts* or families of locusts. If each *postmaster* in places where locusts appear will drop me a line stating the fact of their appearance at his location, I shall be able to make out a complete *map of each district*, embracing every State, county, town, &c., occupied by each family of locusts. This will give little trouble to the postmasters, and will be of great service to the development of the natural history of our country. I will also send to every postmaster who shall send me the information required as above, a book, containing the whole natural history of the insect. To editors who shall copy this article and send a copy of the paper containing it, I will also send a copy of the book above-mentioned, when published. If editors of papers and postmasters comply with this request, I shall be able to present to them the history of the most curious insect of the world. It must be obvious that nothing but the agency of the postmasters and editors, as above, can accomplish the object; and I ask it of them, the more freely, because I can have no personal interest in it.

GIDEON B. SMITH, M. D

SEVENTEENTH OF JUNE, 1843.

CELEBRATION OF THE COMPLETION OF THE MONUMENT
OF BUNKER HILL.

PROGRAMME

Of the procession at the celebration of the comple-
tion of the

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT,

JUNE 17, 1843.

ESCORT

Of volunteer militia, under Major General Apple-
ton Howe,(Including the National Lancers, ten companies
of artillery, and forty-five companies of light infan-
try and riflemen.)Body Guard, composed of the Boston and Salem
Cadets, under Col. Winchester, Chief
Marshal, six aids.

FIRST DIVISION.

Committee of Arrangements.

President of the United States,

And President of the Bunker Hill Monument Asso-
ciation, (in a barouche drawn by six horses,
and flanked by a detachment of
Lancers.)Orator and Chaplain, and First Vice President of the
Bunker Hill Monument Association.

Members of the Cabinet.

Marshal. { Governor of the Common- } Marshal.
wealth, Lieut. Governor, and
suite, in a barouche and four.

Council, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Ex-Presidents of the United States.

Governors of other States.

Marshal. { United States Marshal and } Marshal.
Judges of U. S. Courts.

Senators of the United States.

Representatives of the United States.

Sheriff of Suffolk.

Judges of Supreme Judicial Court and Court of
Common Pleas.Marshal. { Revolutionary Officers and } Marshal.
Soldiers.

SECOND DIVISION.

Marshal. Marshal. Marshal.

Officers of the Army and Navy.

Collector, Naval Officer, Postmaster.

Surveyor, Navy Agent, and Captain of Revenue
Cutter.

Foreign Consuls.

Marshal. { Judges of Courts of other } Marshal.
States.

President and Officers of Harvard College.

Reverend Clergy.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

Marshal. { Massachusetts Senate and } Marshal.
House of Representatives,
Clerks of both branches.Marshal. { Selectmen of Charlestown, } Marshal.
Mayor and Aldermen of
Boston.
Common Council.

Treasurers of Middlesex and Suffolk.

City Clerk, City Solicitor, and Chief Engineer,

Judges of Probate Courts.

Judges of Police Courts.

Architect and Builder of Bunker Hill Monument.

Marshal. { Officers of Militia } Marshal.
in uniform.

THIRD DIVISION.

Marshal. Marshal. Marshal.

Marshal. { King Solomon's Lodge } Marshal.
and

Marshal. { Auxilliary Lodges. } Marshal.

[This Lodge built the first Monument on Bunker
Hill, and gave the land on which it stood to the
Bunker Hill Monument Association.]Marshal. { Massachusetts Charitable } Marshal.
Mechanic Association.[This Association built, with funds which they
procured by subscription, forty feet of the Monu-
ment.]Marshal. { New England Society of } Marshal.
New-York.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Marshal. Marshal. Marshal.

Associations of this Commonwealth, according
to the date of their formation.Marshal. { Ancient and Honorable Ar- } Marshal.
tillery Company. 1638.Marshal. { Charitable Irish Society. } Marshal.
1737.Marshal. { Cincinnati. } Marshal.
1783.Marshal. { Benevolent Journeymen Tai- } Marshal.
lor's Society. 1806.

Marshal. Andover Theological Society. Marshal.

Marshal. { Mechanic Apprentices' Li- } Marshal.
brary Association, Feb. 1820.Marshal. { Independent Order of Odd } Marshal.
Fellows. March, 1820.Marshal. { Roman Catholic Mutual Re- } Marshal.
lief Society. 1832.Marshal. { Catholic Temperance Society } Marshal.
St. Mary's, Feb. 1841.Marshal. { St. Mary's Mutual Benevo- } Marshal.
lent Catholic Total Absti-
nence Society. 1841, April.Marshal. { Irish Protestant Mutual Re- } Marshal.
lief Society. 1841, April.Marshal. { Members of the Bunker Hill } Marshal.
Monument Association.

Citizens.

ROUTE.—The procession will leave the State-house
precisely at 10 A. M., and pass down Park street.Divisions Nos. 3 and 4 will file from the Common
gate at the corner of Tremont and Park streets.The whole will then pass down Tremont, through
Boylston, Washington, State, Commercial, Clinton,Blackstone, and Haverhill streets, over Warren
bridge, through Charlestown Square, Maine, Salem,

and High streets, to the Monument Square.

RETURN ROUTE.—Through Winthrop and War-
ren streets and Charlestown square, over Charles
river bridge, through Prince, Hanover, and Tremont
streets, to Boston Common.DECORATIONS.—It having been intimated that the
inhabitants of several streets intend to decorate the
buildings on the route, they are requested to have
them completed at an early hour.SALUTES.—Commodore Nicholson, Commandant
of the United States navy-yard, has, in the most pa-
triotic manner, consented to fire a salute from the
navy-yard, as the procession passes over Warren
bridge; and on the return over the Charles river
bridge, a salute will be fired from the revenue cutter,
which will be anchored off the yard, and decorated
for the occasion, by Captain Josiah Sturgis.

LAUNCH OF THE U. S. FRIGATE RARITAN.—At about half-past two o'clock every thing seemed in readiness, and the boats and steamers that were in the river immediately opposite the ship-house, moved out of the reach of danger. At this time the display was truly magnificent. The river was dotted with vessels for a considerable distance. Steamers of every size were there, from the John Smith to the Robert Morris, the prominent boats crowded with beauty and fashion, and several of them having bands of music on board. There could not have been less than 1,500 persons in the Robert Morris, the Ohio, and the Trenton, to say nothing of the Bolivar, the Balloon, the Rainbow, the State Rights, the John Fitch, the William Wray, the Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania, the Kingston, the Virginia, the Farmer, the William Penn, and several other boats, the names of which we do not remember. The U. S. steamer Union, with her three masts and graceful hull, was crowded with officers, men, citizens, and their wives, and was an object of no little attraction, especially as the cannon were conspicuous which were to pour forth their thunders in response to the launch. Many sloops and small sail-boats, the Falcon, the Hesperus, and the Atlanta among the number, were forced through the water with an arrow-like motion, attracting for a moment the eyes of the thousands from the more universal object of interest. The U. S. flag was prominent every where, and streamed proudly, as well from the top of the large ship-house, as from the stern of the Raritan. But almost every vessel was decorated with flags and streamers; and thus the scene along the Delaware shore, and on the wharves and house-tops, together with the river display, formed a spectacle at once rare, various, and beautiful. The weather was altogether suitable, as the burning rays of the sun were kept off by the clouds, while the prospect of rain was very slight indeed. We heard the estimate of spectators placed as high as 50,000 persons. The navy-yard was crowded in the immediate vicinity of the river, while the banks of the Delaware were thronged for more than a mile below the navy-yard. Every eminence, whether shed, house-top, or tree, presented a mass of human beings.

At fifteen minutes before 3 o'clock, a shout burst forth—"She comes, she comes!" and all eyes were immediately directed to the ship-house. Slowly, gradually, and gracefully the immense fabric descended, parting the water with her stern, and plunging into the element with all the ease and grace that it is possible to conceive with regard to such a moving structure. The expression every where was heard, "beautiful!" We never saw so beautiful a launch. It was indeed a perfect movement, and we almost envied the laudable pride which must have thrilled the heart of the master-spirit, as he contemplated the crowning effort of his labor. Shouts and cheers burst forth from thrice ten thousand throats; cannon were discharged from the navy-yard, these were responded to from the decks of the Union, and these again from the revenue cutter. The very air seemed to thrill and tremble for a time, while the feeling of excitement and enthusiasm must have animated, in some degree at least, the breast of every spectator. Every

thing went smoothly and well. It was, indeed, a most beautiful launch, a perfect triumph of art, and it will be long remembered with pleasure by the citizens of Philadelphia. The faces of the thousands, as they returned homewards, were brightened with delight and satisfaction; and it was truly gratifying to listen to the expressions of praise at the good order, tact, and skill with which every thing was conducted.

We have just heard from a person who was on board the Raritan at the time of the launch, that she was christened by Captain Engles; and that among the hundreds who were on board, were Secretary Upshur, Commodores Barron, Read, Ridgeley, and Shubrick. No ladies. In the descent she parted her chain cable, and was for a short time adrift; but she was soon towed to her place at the navy yard by the steam ferry-boat "John Fitch."

A scow was upset by the swell, and several persons thrown into the water, but no lives were lost.

Judge Upshur received a salute of seventeen guns on his first appearance in the navy-yard.—*Phil. Inq.*

From the National Intelligencer.

DEATH OF GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SERVANT—This is the same "Old John," of whom some notice was taken in the Intelligencer last winter, when a joint resolution was pending before Congress to grant him a pension. He was born of African parents, in Westmoreland county, Virginia, in August, 1729, two years and a half before the birth of Gen. Washington, and in the same county. Had he lived two months longer, he would have reached the full age of one hundred and fourteen years. He accompanied Gen. Washington as his personal servant in the old French War, and was with him in the battle-field on the Monongahela in July, 1755, where Gen. Braddock was defeated and slain, and where Washington, by his ability and prudence, covered the retreat and saved the remnant of the British army, and laid the foundation of his future military fame.

In the war of the Revolution, John followed to the camp and to the field his old commander, sometimes as a personal attendant and sometimes in the ranks of the army, and continued with him till the termination of hostilities. When retiring from the army, General Washington presented "Old John" with a military coat, the same which the General had worn at the siege of Yorktown, as a token of his approbation and esteem. This coat John carefully preserved as a sacred memento; and though in his old age reduced to extreme poverty, no money could ever tempt him to part with the coat. He wore it as a dress coat till within the last fifteen years of his life, and has left it as his richest earthly treasure.

After the war of the Revolution, John resided for several years in Westmoreland county, where he became a devout member of the Baptist Church. Thence he removed to this place, and for the last twenty-eight years of his life was a member of the First Baptist Church in this city.

He was ardent in his patriotism and attachment to his country's Father, the great Washington. He was still more ardent in his piety and devotion to God, his Eternal Father and Redeemer. His life was unstained, and his death was unclouded. He met without dread the King of Terrors, and passed the vale of death without alarm.

WASHINGTON.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1843.

DEATH OF MR. LEGARE.—Boston papers bring us the painful intelligence of the death of the Hon. HUGH S. LEGARE, Attorney General of the United States and acting Secretary of State. He arrived in Boston on Friday last to witness the celebration; was present at the reception room of the President on that day; was taken unwell, and died on Tuesday, at 6 o'clock, A. M.

Truly death is inexorable. He has chilled with his icy hand even the crowd that assembled to celebrate one of his own most glorious days.

Poor Missouri! We had hoped her trials were over. But not yet. We understand that orders have been sent to the North for blowers to blow the smoke away from her wheel-houses, and that two more boilers and and two more engines are to be put on board to work them. We only hope they may not blow the vessel up. And where is the smoke from them to go? Are we to have other boilers and other engines to blow the smoke away from these? It reminds us of the Hindoo cosmogony as to the elephant which supports the world.

After these failures have been completed, we understand that the little *Engineer* is to be the next victim—we are glad it is not the Missouri. The exploded notion of having the paddles to go in and come out of the water perpendicularly, it is said, it to be revived on board the *Engineer*. What fund is it that suffers from these experiments? Not the naval appropriation we hope.

Captain JOHN PERCIVAL has been ordered to the command of the ship *Franklin*, as soon as the Board of Examiners adjourns.

When are British soldiers idle? Either at home or abroad it seems the Government always finds them employment. The late arrivals by the Columbia bring full accounts of the "vigorous efforts that are making to send more forces to Ireland." Among other preparations it is announced that Rear Admiral WILLIAM BOWLES, C. B., is ordered over to hoist his flag as naval commander-in-chief on the coast of Ireland, and that a large fleet of war-steamers and other vessels of war will be placed under his orders.

The London Morning Post states that Government has issued orders for the immediate supply of ten thousand sets of infantry accoutrements, and that "this has not been usual since the hottest period of the war."

BUNKER HILL.

The celebration is over. We insert only the "programme," which embodies the spirit of the arrangements. For details we must refer to the thousands of accounts scattered through every paper of the day. Suffice it to say that it is represented as a "glorious," "magnificent," affair. Leaving the celebration, we will go back to the event itself, and throw together a few such papers as will bring vividly to the minds of our readers the thrilling scenes of that memorable conflict. The great orator at the late celebration has not overrated its importance. Taught to regard the Americans as cowardly enthusiasts, the British Government looked upon their subjugation as an easy thing. Bunker Hill undeceived them. The blow was struck. Freemen felt their strength—tyrants saw their impotence. America was free.

The following account was drawn up by the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts in obedience to a resolution of the Provincial Congress of that Colony:

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, July 25, 1775.

In obedience to the above order of Congress, this committee have inquired into the premises, and upon the best information obtained, find that the commanders of the New England army had, about the 14th ult., received advice that General Gage had issued orders for a party of the troops under his command to post themselves on Bunker's Hill, a promontory just at the entrance of the peninsula of Charlestown, which orders were soon to be executed. Upon which it was determined, with the advice of this committee, to send a party, who might erect some fortifications upon said hill, and defeat this design of our enemies. Accordingly, on the 16th ult., orders were issued that a detachment of one thousand men should that evening march to Charlestown, and intrench upon that hill. Just before nine o'clock they left Cambridge, and proceeded to Breed's Hill, situated on the farther part of the peninsula next to Boston; for, by some mistake, this hill was marked out for the intrenchment instead of the other. Many things being necessary to be done preparatory to the intrenchments being thrown up, (which could not be done before, lest the enemy should discover and defeat the design,) it was nearly twelve o'clock before the works were entered upon; they were then carried on with the utmost diligence and alacrity, so that by the dawn of the day they had thrown up a small redoubt, about eight rods square. At this time a heavy fire began from the enemy's ships, a number of floating batteries, and from a fortification of the enemy's upon Copp's Hill in Boston, directly opposite to our little redoubt. An incessant shower of shot and bombs was rained by these upon our works, by which only one man fell; the Provincials continued to labor indefatigably till they had thrown up a small breastwork, extending from the east side of the redoubt to the bottom of the hill, but were prevented completing it by the intolerable fire of the enemy.

Between twelve and one o'clock a number of boats and barges, filled with the regular troops from Boston, were observed approaching towards Charlestown. These troops landed at a place called Moreton's Point, situated a little to the eastward of our works. This brigade formed upon their landing, and stood thus formed till a second detachment arrived from Boston to join them. Having sent out large flank guards, they began a very slow march towards our lines. At this instant smoke and flames were seen to arise from the town of Charlestown, which had been set on fire by the enemy, that the smoke might cover their attack upon our lines, and perhaps with a design to rout or destroy one or two regiments of Provincials who had been posted in that town. If either of these was their design, they were disappointed, for the wind shifting on a sudden, carried the smoke another way, and the regiments were already removed. The Provincials, within their intrenchments, impatiently awaited the attack of the enemy, and reserved their fire till they came within ten or twelve rods, and then began a furious discharge of small arms. This fire arrested the enemy, which they for some time returned, without advancing a step, and then retreated in disorder, and with great precipitation, to the place of landing; and some of them sought refuge even within their boats. Here the officers were observed by the spectators on the opposite shore, to run down to them, using the most passionate gestures, and pushing the men forward with their swords. At length they were rallied, and marched up with apparent reluctance towards the intrenchment. The Americans again reserved their fire until the enemy came up within five or six rods, and a second time put the regulars to flight, who ran in great confusion towards their boats. Similar and superior exertions were now necessarily made by the officers, which, notwithstanding the men discovered an almost insuperable reluctance to fighting in this cause, were again successful. They formed once more, and having brought some cannon to bear in such a manner as to rake the inside of the breastwork from one end of it to the other, the Provincials retreated within their little fort. The Ministerial army now made a decisive effort; the fire from the ships and batteries, as well as from the cannon in the front of their army, was redoubled. The officers in the rear of their army were observed to goad forward the men with renewed exertions, and they attacked the redoubt on three sides at once. The breastwork on the outside of the fort was abandoned; the ammunition of the Provincials was expended, and few of their arms were fixed with bayonets. Can it then be wondered that the word was given by the commander of the party, to retreat? But this he delayed till the redoubt was half filled with regulars, and the Provincials had kept the enemy at bay some time, confronting them with the but-end of their muskets.

The retreat of this little handful of brave men would have been effectually cut off, had it not happened that the flanking party of the enemy, which was to have come up on the back of the redoubt, was checked by a party of Provincials, who fought with

the utmost bravery, and kept them from advancing farther than the beach. The engagement of these two parties was kept up with the utmost vigor; and it must be acknowledged that this party of the Ministerial troops evidenced a courage worthy of a better cause. All their efforts, however, were insufficient to compel the Provincials to retreat, till their main body had left the hill. Perceiving this was done, they then gave ground, but with more regularity than could be expected of troops who had no longer been under discipline, and many of whom never before saw an engagement.

In this retreat the Americans had to pass over the neck, which joins the peninsula of Charlestown to the main land. This neck was commanded by the Glasgow man-of-war and two floating batteries, placed in such a manner as that their shot raked every part of it. The incessant fire kept up across this neck, had, from the beginning of the engagement, prevented any considerable reinforcement from getting to the Provincials upon the hill, and it was feared would cut off their retreat, but they retired over it with little or no loss. * * * By the best accounts from Boston, we were told that of three thousand men who marched out upon this expedition, no less than fifteen hundred, (ninety-two of whom were commissioned officers,) were killed or wounded,* and about twelve hundred of them either killed or mortally wounded. Such a slaughter was perhaps never before made upon British troops in the space of about an hour, during which the heat of the engagement lasted, by about fifteen hundred men, which were the most that were at any time engaged on the American side. The loss of the New England army amounted, according to an exact return, to one hundred and forty-five killed and missing, and three hundred and four wounded. * * *

One or two extracts from letters of individuals giving accounts of the battle, may not be uninteresting. In these descriptions, written at the time, there is a vivid reality that cannot be given to mere historical narration. A gentleman in Providence writing to a friend in New York, on the 20th of June, says:

"On the evening of the 16th Colonel Putnam took possession of Bunker's Hill, with about two thousand men, and began an intrenchment, which they had made some progress in. At eight in the morning a party of regulars landed at Charlestown, and fired the town in divers places. Under cover of the smoke, a body of about five thousand men marched up to our entrenchments, and make a furious and sudden attack. They were driven back three times; and

* The account from which the committee formed their estimate was published as follows in the papers of July, 1775. It is the same as that furnished to the Boston Atlas, and which has lately been copied extensively by the press:

"The following is thought to contain a true account of the loss of the army, including those who died of their wounds; taken June 29, 1775.

Return of the killed at Charlestown, the 17th June, taken from an Orderly Sergeant in Boston.

Commission officers,	92
Sergeants,	102
Corporals,	100
Rank and file,	753
Total of killed,	1,047
Wounded,	445
Total of killed and wounded,	1,492

when they were making the third attack, one of our people imprudently spoke aloud that their powder was all gone; which being heard by some of the regular officers, they encouraged their men to march up to the entrenchments with fixed bayonets and entered them; on which our people were ordered to retreat, which they did till they got out of musket shot; they then formed, but were not pursued. In the mean time, six men-of-war and four floating batteries were brought up, and kept up a continual fire on the causeway that leads on to Charlestown; our people retreated through the fire, but not without the loss of many of the men.

Our loss is sixty men killed and missing, and about one hundred and forty wounded. The brave Doctor Warren is among the former, and Colonel Gardner among the latter. We left six field-pieces on the hill; our people are now intrenched on Pleasant Hill, within cannon shot of Bunker's Hill. The loss of the King's troops must be considerable; the exact number we cannot tell. If our people had been supplied with ammunition, they would have held possession most certainly. They have begun firing on Roxbury with carcasses, to set it on fire, but have not yet succeeded. Our people are in high spirits, and are very earnest to put this matter on another trial.

The next extract is from a letter dated Cambridge, June 22:

As the enemy approached, our men were not only exposed to the attack of a very numerous musketry, but to the heavy fire of the battery on Copp's Hill, four or five men-of-war, several armed boats or floating batteries in Mistic river, and a number of field-pieces; notwithstanding which, our troops within the intrenchment, and at a breastwork without, sustained the enemy's attacks with real bravery and resolution, killed and wounded great numbers, and repulsed them several times; and after bearing for about two hours a severe and heavy fire as perhaps ever was known, and many having fired away all their ammunition, they were overpowered by numbers and obliged to leave the intrenchment, retreating about sunset to a small distance over Charlestown neck. Our loss, from the best information we can obtain, does not exceed fifty killed, and twenty or thirty taken prisoners.

The town of Charlestown, supposed to contain about three hundred dwelling-houses, a great number of which were large and elegant, besides one hundred and fifty or two hundred other buildings, are almost all laid in ashes.

The enemy yet remain in possession of Charlestown, and have erected works for their defence on Bunker's Hill. It is said they have brought over some of their light-horse from Charlestown.

Our troops continue in high spirits.

But let us listen to the story as told by the enemy. British officers had learned, as General Gage expressed himself in a letter to Lord Dartmouth, that the Americans "were not the despicable rabble too many had supposed them to be;" but to gloss over the mortifying defeat, the most perverted statements

were sent to Great Britain. A merchant in Boston writing to his brother in Scotland, under date of the 24th of June, says:

* * * * A very small part of the enemy's intrenchment was seen on this side, it being only thought to be the work of a night; but their chief breastworks were on the other side of the hill. It was found to be *the strongest post that was ever occupied by any set of men*; and the prisoners that were taken say they were nine thousand strong, and had a good artillery. Five cannon were taken. The spirit and bravery that the British troops exhibited on this occasion I suppose it is not to be surpassed in any history. To the great satisfaction of all good men, Doctor Warren was slain, who was one of their first and greatest leaders.

I cannot help mentioning one thing which serves to show the hellish disposition of the accursed rebels—by parcels of ammunition that were left on the field, *their balls were all found to be poisoned*.

Another letter from Boston, written on the 25th of June, says:

"The loss on both sides is supposed to be nearly equal; nor can we wonder that it should be so, when we consider that this handful of fourteen hundred men forced a redoubt defended by sixteen hundred, who, had they behaved with any tolerable degree of courage, and had but a small portion of military skill, they might have defended it against three times their number."

Let an officer high in rank now speak—one, too, who had opportunities for cool observation, having been, as he says, so far out of danger, that "except two cannon balls, that went a hundred yards over our heads, we were not in any part of the direction of the enemy's shot;" and whose only feat that day seems to have been to have fired Charlestown; for for which "his own troops loaded him with many a curse, while suffering in cold and rain, for want of being covered by those very buildings he destroyed," and the glory of which one was so little able to appreciate as to write to him, that "any parricide, any assassin, the greatest of villains, with proper materials, can set wooden buildings on fire, especially when they themselves are as far out of danger as you were at that time." Hear Burgoyne:

My two colleagues and myself (who, by the by, have never differed in one jot of military sentiment) had, in concert with General Gage, formed the plan. Howe was to land the transports on the point; Clinton in the centre; and I was to cannonade from the causeway or the neck; each to take advantage of circumstances. The operations must have been very easy; this was to have been executed on the 18th. On the 17th, at dawn of day, we found the enemy had pushed intrenchments with great diligence during the night, on the heights of Charlestown, and we evidently saw that every hour gave them fresh strength; it therefore became necessary to alter our plan, and attack on that side. Howe, as second in command, was detached with about two thousand men, and landed on the

outward side of the peninsula, covered with shipping without opposition; he was to advance from thence up the hill which was over Charlestown, where the strength of the enemy lay: he had under him Brig. Gen. Pigot. Clinton and myself took our stand (for we had not any fixed post) in a large battery directly opposite to Charlestown, and commanded it, and also reaching the heights above it, and thereby facilitating Howe's attack. Howe's disposition was exceedingly soldierlike; in my opinion it was perfect. As his first arm advanced up the hill they met with a thousand impediments from strong fences, and were much exposed. They were also exceedingly hurt by musketry from Charlestown, though Clinton and I did not perceive it until Howe sent us word by a boat, and desired us to set fire to the town, which was immediately done; we threw a parcel of shells, and the whole was instantly in flames; our battery afterwards kept an incessant fire on the heights; it was seconded by a number of frigates, floating batteries and one ship-of-the-line. And now ensued one of the greatest scenes of war that can be conceived—a complication of horror and importance greater than ever came to my lot to be witness to. It was a sight that the longest service may not furnish again.

A moment of the day was critical: Howe's left were staggered; two battalions had been sent to reinforce them, but we perceived them on the beach seeming in embarrassment what way to march. Clinton then, next for business, took the part without waiting for orders, to throw himself in a boat to head them. He arrived in time to be of service. The day ended with glory, and the success was most important, considering the ascendancy it gave the regular troops; but the loss was uncommon in officers for the numbers engaged.

But some of the officers of the British army bore a more generous testimony to the valor of their opponents. What they were compelled to admire they were willing to praise. One writes to his friend in England, that

After the *skirmish* of the 17th we even commend the troops of Putnam, who fought so gallantly, *pro aris et focis*. When we marched to the attack of the redoubt, they called out, "Colonel Abercrombie, are the Yankees cowards?" nor did they discharge a gun until we were with fifteen yards.

The loss of the provincial troops is trifling in comparison to ours; and, indeed, another such onset will be our ruin. A universal murmur now runs through the army, which ever most disagreeably invades the general's ears.

And another:

The Americans are not those poltroons I myself was once taught to believe them to be; they are men of liberal and noble sentiments; their very characteristic is the love of liberty; and though I am an officer under the King of Great Britain, I tacitly admire their resolution and perseverance against the present oppressive measures of the British Government.

Let us take now the official account of General Gage. It is dated Boston, June 25, 1775:

TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH:

MY LORD: I am to acquaint your Lordship of an action that happened on the 17th instant, between his Majesty's troops and a body of the rebel forces.

An alarm was given at break of day on the 17th instant, by a firing from the Lively ship-of-war, and advice was soon afterwards received that the rebels had broke ground, and were raising a battery on the heights of the peninsula of Charlestown, against Boston. They were plainly seen at work, and in a few hours a battery of six guns played upon their works. Preparations were instantly made for landing a body of men to drive them off, and ten companies of grenadiers, ten of light infantry, with the Fifth, Thirty-Eighth, Forty-Third, and Fifty-Second battalions made a third line. The rebels upon the heights were perceived to be in great force, and strongly posted; a redoubt thrown up on the 16th, at night, with other works, full of men, defended with cannon, and a large body posted in the houses in Charlestown, covered their right flank, and their centre and left were covered by a breastwork, part of it cannon proof, which reached from the left of the redoubt to the Mistick or Medford river.

The appearance of the rebels' strength, and the large columns seen pouring in to their assistance, occasioned an application for the troops to be reinforced with some companies of light infantry and grenadiers, the Forty-Seventh battalion, and the First battalion of marines; the whole, when in conjunction, making a body of something above two thousand men. These troops advanced, formed in two lines, and the attack began by a sharp cannonade from our field-pieces and howitzers; the lines advancing slowly, and frequently halting to give time to the artillery to fire. The light infantry was directed to force the left point of the breastwork, to take the rebel line in flank, and the grenadiers to attack in front, supported by the Fifth and Fifty-Second battalions. These orders were executed with perseverance, under a heavy fire from the vast numbers of the rebels; and notwithstanding various impediments before the troops could reach the works, (and though the left, under Brigadier General Pigot, who engaged also with the rebels at Charlestown, which, at a critical moment, was set on fire,) the brigadier pursued his point, and carried the redoubt. The rebels were then forced from other strong-holds, and pursued till they were drove clear off the peninsula, leaving five pieces of cannon behind them.

The loss the rebels sustained must have been considerable, from the great numbers they carried off during the time of action, and buried in holes, since discovered, exclusive of what they suffered by shipping and boats. Near one hundred were buried the next day after, and thirty found wounded in the field, three of whom are since dead.

I enclose your lordship a return of the killed and wounded of his Majesty's troops.* This action has shown the superiority of the King's troops, who, under every disadvantage, attacked and defeated

* One lieutenant colonel, 2 majors, 7 captains, 9 lieutenants, 15 sergeants, 1 drummer, 191 rank and file, killed; 3 majors, 27 captains, 32 lieutenants, 8 ensigns, 20 sergeants, 12 drummers, 706 rank and file, wounded.

above three times their number, strongly posted and covered by breastworks.

The conduct of Major General Howe was conspicuous on this occasion, and his example spirited the troops, in which Major General Clinton assisted, who followed the reinforcement; and in justice to Brigadier General Pigot, I am to add, that the success of the day must, in a great measure, be attributed to his firmness and gallantry.

Lieutenant Colonels Nesbit, Abercrombie, Clarke; Majors Butler, Williams, Bruce, Spendlove, Smelt, Mitchell, Pitcairn, and Short, exerted themselves remarkably; and the valor of the British officers and soldiers in general was at no time more conspicuous than in this action.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

THOMAS GAGE.

What effect did these accounts produce at home? A few probably supposed that the "rebels" were now subdued; others were so astounded at the accounts received that they could not believe it possible, notwithstanding even the testimony of General Gage, that "a six-gun battery, the production of a single night's digging, had there been ten thousand men to protect it, could ever have made such havoc against a vast train of artillery, and the irresistible fire of the ships, which would sweep all before them, from every acre of that peninsula." But the impression generally made was such as is expressed in the following "observations" upon General Gage's account:

LONDON, August 1, 1775.

The action near Boston happened on the "17th of June," yet General Gage's letter is dated eight days after, on the "25th of June." By this letter, it appears that it has cost one thousand and sixty-four of the troops, killed and wounded, to destroy a redoubt thrown up only the overnight, i. e., on the 16th of June.

The loss of the provincials, the letter says, "must have been considerable;" yet eight days after the action, the General, though completely victorious, can tell us only of "one hundred" buried, and "thirty" wounded.

But "they had carried off great numbers during the time of action." Did they so? That is no great sign of flight, confusion, and defeat.

But "they buried them in holes." Really! Why, are our soldiers buried in the air?

But "the King's troops were under every disadvantage." So truly it seems; for in the same letter we are told "that they had a proportion of field-artillery, and landed on the peninsula without opposition, and formed as soon as landed, under the protection of some ships-of-war, armed vessels, and boats, by whose fire the rebels were kept within their works."

But "this action has shown the superiority of the King's troops." Has it, indeed! How? Why, they (with a proportion of field artillery, and with the assistance of ships, armed vessels, and boats, and with the encouragement of certain and speedy reinforcements, if necessary,) attacked and defeated three times their own numbers. Of whom, pray? Of

French or Spanish regulars? No, of the Americans. Of the *Americans*! What, of those dastardly, hypocritical cowards, who (Lord Sandwich knows) do not feel bold enough to look a soldier in the face! Of those undisciplined and spiritless Yankees, who were to be driven from one end of the continent to the other, with a single regiment! What, of those skulking assassins, who can only fire at a distance, from behind stone walls and hedges! Good God! Was it necessary, to defeat these fellows, that the troops should be "spirited" by the example of General Howe, assisted by General Clinton! And can it be, that "Lieutenant Colonels Nesbit, Abercrombie, and Clarke; Majors Butler, Williams, Bruce, Spendlove, Smelt, Mitchell, Pitcairn, and Short," should be forced to exert themselves against such poltroons? Is it possible that this could be an affair in which "the valor of the British officers and soldiers in general was as conspicuous as at any time whatever;" and notwithstanding all this, that "the success, in a great measure, should be attributed to the firmness and gallantry of General Pigot?" Good God! Is it come to this at last? Can the regulars, with all these exertions, only defeat three times their own number of undisciplined cowards? and that, too, at the expense of one thousand and sixty-four (that is, more than one-half) killed and wounded, out of something above two thousand.

Is every redoubt which the Americans can throw up in a short summer night, to be demolished at this expense? How many such victories can we bear?

Alas! when I read in the General's letter the regular and formal preparations for attack: "Ten companies of grenadiers, ten of light infantry, with the Fifth, Thirty-Eighth, Forty-Third, and Fifty-Second battalions, with a proportion of field-artillery, under the command of Major General Howe and Brigadier General Pigot," and these "landed on the peninsula under the protection of ships-of-war, armed vessels, and boats," and their dreadful fire: when I had read this, I concluded that the next lines would inform me of the immediate and precipitate flight of the Yankees. Judge, then, of my surprise, when I read that (instead of being at all dismayed or struck with the *Sandwich* panic) "large columns" of these cowards "were seen pouring in to their assistance."

Well, but then comes "an application for the troops to be reinforced with some companies of light infantry and grenadiers, the Forty-Seventh battalion, and the First battalion of marines." They will certainly, thought I, scamper away now. Alas! no. They stay and fight. And to complete my astonishment, I cannot find in General Gage's letter where our troops were when he wrote, nor what became of them after the action; whether they are returned to Boston, or have ventured to encamp without the town; what prisoners they have taken; what advantages (besides five pieces of cannon) result from this bloody action; whether the war is now at an end; or what the troops propose to do next.

Such was American spirit on Saturday, the 17th of June, 1775—the celebration on Saturday, the 17th of June, 1843, was worthy of it.

ARMY.

1ST MILITARY DEPARTMENT.—Brig. Gen. Arbuckle, having obtained leave of absence, the command of this department has been assumed by Col. Twiggs.

FORT WASHITA.—Company D, of dragoons, from Fort Gibson, and company G, of riflemen, from Fort Towson, have been ordered to garrison this post, the command of which is assigned to Colonel Harney. On the arrival of G company, of riflemen, Captain Alexander's company C, 6th infantry, will rejoin the garrison at Fort Towson.

DRAGOONS.—Companies C, F, and K, one hundred and sixty strong, under command of Captain P. St. G. Cooke, left Fort Leavenworth, on the 27th May, to give escort to traders on the Santa Fe route. The escort was joined at Council Grove, by a detachment of company A, (twenty-five men,) under command of Captain Terrett.

7TH INFANTRY.—Headquarters have been removed, by order of General Arbuckle, from New Orleans barracks to Baton Rouge. The regiment is under command of Lieutenant Colonel Whistler.

The garrison at New Orleans barracks, excepting a guard, will spend the sickly months at Pass Christian.

8TH INFANTRY.—The resignation of 2d Lieut. J. S. McCalmont has been accepted, to take effect on the 1st July.

NAVY.**June. ORDERS.**

- 14—Lt. L. C. Sartori, order to Missouri revoked. Mid. D. Mc. N. Fairfax, steamer Missouri. Sailmaker R. C. Rodman, sloop Decatur, Norfolk.
- 15—Mid. E. A. Barnett, receiving-vessel Philadelphia. Mid. W. P. Buckner, detached from sloop Marion, and leave one month.
- 16—Lt. Wm. L. Maury, order to brig Bainbridge revoked. Mid. S. Wilcox, sloop Decatur, Norfolk. Master P. Brownell, navy-yard, Washington.
- 17—1st Ass't Engineers H. Sanford, Wm. Scott, and Henry Hunt; and 2d Ass't Engineers A. S. Palmer, J. S. Rutherford, and N. C. Davis; and 3d Ass't Engineer John Serro, steamer Missouri.
- 3d Ass't Engineer John Gallagher, det'd from steamer Missouri, and leave three months.
- 19—Captain John Percival, command of ship Franklin, New York, after the Board of Examiners adjourns. Midshipmen J. F. Abbott, N. C. Bryant, and J. P. McFarland, after examination, sloop Decatur, Norfolk.
- Midshipmen Wm. W. Low and S. Rathbone, sloop Decatur, Norfolk.
- Midshipmen A. Bryson, J. G. Strain, and W. H. Thompson, after examination, frigate Macedonian, Norfolk.
- Mid. J. M. Duncan and Boatswain J. Mills, sloop Decatur.
- Mid. J. S. Kennard, frigate Macedonian, Norfolk.
- Mid. J. M. Wainwright and 3d Ass't Engineer Thomas Dickson, steamer Missouri.
- 2d Ass't Engineer J. K. Matthews, detached from the Missouri.

June. RESIGNATION.

- 15—Benjamin F. Van Hook, Midshipman.

June. APPOINTMENT.

- 15—Theodore Zelter, 3d Assistant Engineer.

Naval Intelligence.**U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.**

Brig *Truxtun*, Lieut. Comd't Upshur, bound to Constantinople to bring home the remains of Commodore Porter, went to sea from Hampton Roads on Friday last.

Sloop *Marion* has been ordered from Norfolk round to Boston, for the purpose of cleaning her, she having been very foul since she was sunk at Rio Janeiro.

Ship *Columbus*, Commodore Shubrick, store-ship *Erie*, Lieut. Duke (late first of the *Columbus*) commanding, and U. S. schooner *Enterprise*, Lieut. Manning, (late of the *Erie*), were at Rio Janeiro, May 7. All well. The *Erie* was to sail for Valparaiso.

HOME SQUADRON.—Brig *Dolphin* arrived at New Orleans on the 7th instant from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 24th instant.

AFRICAN SQUADRON.—The following is a list of the officers attached to the brig *Porpoise*, which sailed from Sierra Leone on the 28th of April, on a cruise to the leeward:

Lieut. Commanding, A. Lewis; 1st Lieut., H. S. Stellwagen; 2d Lieut., G. L. Selden; 3d Lieut., G. W. Chapman; Acting Master, M. C. Watkins; Surgeon, Dr. Mauley; Purser, R. Pettit; Passed Midshipman, R. Allison; Mid. B. Randolph, G. M. Dibble, J. Stewart, and J. M. Ford; Captain's Clerk, A. Lewis, jr.

A detachment of U. S. seamen, under command of Lieut. BOWERS, arrived at Norfolk on Sunday, from Boston.

Deaths.

In Norfolk, Thursday, 15th inst., of cholera infantum, GEORGE WORTH, infant son of Lieut. GEORGE M. M. MCCREY, of the U. S. navy, aged 10 months.

In Boston, on the 4th inst., Passed Midshipman JOHN BROOKS, U. S. navy, aged 23 years, son of the late Col. A. S. Brooks, of the U. S. army.

In Washington, on the 13th inst., in the 40th year of her age, Mrs. CHARLOTTE MEADE GRAHAM, wife of Major JAMES D. GRAHAM, U. S. Topographical Engineers, and daughter of the late RICHARD W. MEADE, of Philadelphia.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

SYNOPSIS OF THE CRUISE OF THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION, by its Commander, Lt. Charles Wilkes, with a chart, showing the tracks of the vessels.

BITUMEN: its varieties, properties, and uses, compiled from various sources, by Lieut. H. Wager Halleck, U. S. Corps of Engineers, under the direction of Col. J. G. Totten, Chief Engineer.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CHINESE TREATISES upon the culture of the Mulberry and the rearing of Silk Worms. Translated from the Chinese.

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